

Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES

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SEGA

SONIC



THE HEDGEHOG

**IN THIS
ISSUE:
OUR
SPACED
OUT
SPEEDSTER
MEETS
THE
PARENTS—
TAILS'
PARENTS—
IN THE LAST
PLACE
HE EVER
EXPECTED!**

**IT'S THE
ANSWER
TO THE
SONICVERSE'S
BIGGEST
MYSTERY—
DON'T MISS**

**"WELCOME TO
WHEELWORLD!"**

AS

**"TOSSED IN
SPACE"**

CONCLUDES!

DIRECT EDITION



SPAR
TIBETRO
XRAY

TOSSED IN SPACE CONCLUDES WITH THE TRIAL OF THE BEM



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG (issn:10705090), No. 129, Jan., 2004. Published every 4 weeks, twice in April by Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Richard H. Goldwater, President and Co-Publisher, Michael I. Silberkeit, Chairman and Co-Publisher. Single copies \$2.19 in the U.S.; \$2.59 in Canada. Subscription rate: U.S. \$28.47 for 13 issues; \$33.67 in Canada. All Canadian orders payable in U.S. funds. SEGA, Sonic The Hedgehog, and all related characters and indicia are either registered trademarks or trademarks of SEGA CORPORATION © 1991-2000. SEGA CORPORATION and SONICTEAM, LTD./SEGA CORPORATION © 2001-2003. All Rights Reserved. The product is manufactured under license from Sega of America, Inc., 650 Townsend St., Ste. 650, San Francisco, CA 94103 www.sega.com. Any similarities between characters, names, persons, and/or institutions in this book and any living, dead, or fictional characters, names, persons, and/or institutions are not intended and if they exist, are purely coincidental. Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Mamaroneck, New York and at additional mailing offices. Title registered in U.S. patent office. POSTMASTER, send address changes to SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, c/o Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Printed in Canada

IN THE FARTHEST REACHES
OF KNOWN SPACE, THERE
EXISTS A LIFELESS PLANET.

THE PLANET, HOWEVER,
CARRIES UPON ITS SURFACE
A BUBBLE WITH A CITY
TEAMING WITH LIFE.

IN THAT CITY ARE INHABITANTS
READY TO ENJOY ONE OF
THEIR FAVORITE PASTIMES:
THE GALACTIC SPACE RACE.

VIEWERS FROM AROUND THE COSMOS ARE
GLUED TO THEIR HOLO TRANSMISSIONS OF
THE EVENT AS THEIR FAVORITE RUNNERS
GET INTO POSITION FOR THE START OF THE RACE.

BOTH VIEWER AND SPECTATOR
ALIKE ARE CURIOUS ABOUT THE
LITTLE BLUE ALIEN THAT HAS
SIGNED UP FOR THE COMPETITION.

HE IS...
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
AND HE'S READY FOR
THE RACE OF A LIFETIME.

"TOSSED IN SPACE" PART SIX SPACE GAMBLE

ROMY CHACON
[STORY]

WITH A TIP OF THE
HAT TO SW EP.1

DAWN BEST
+ JIM AMASH

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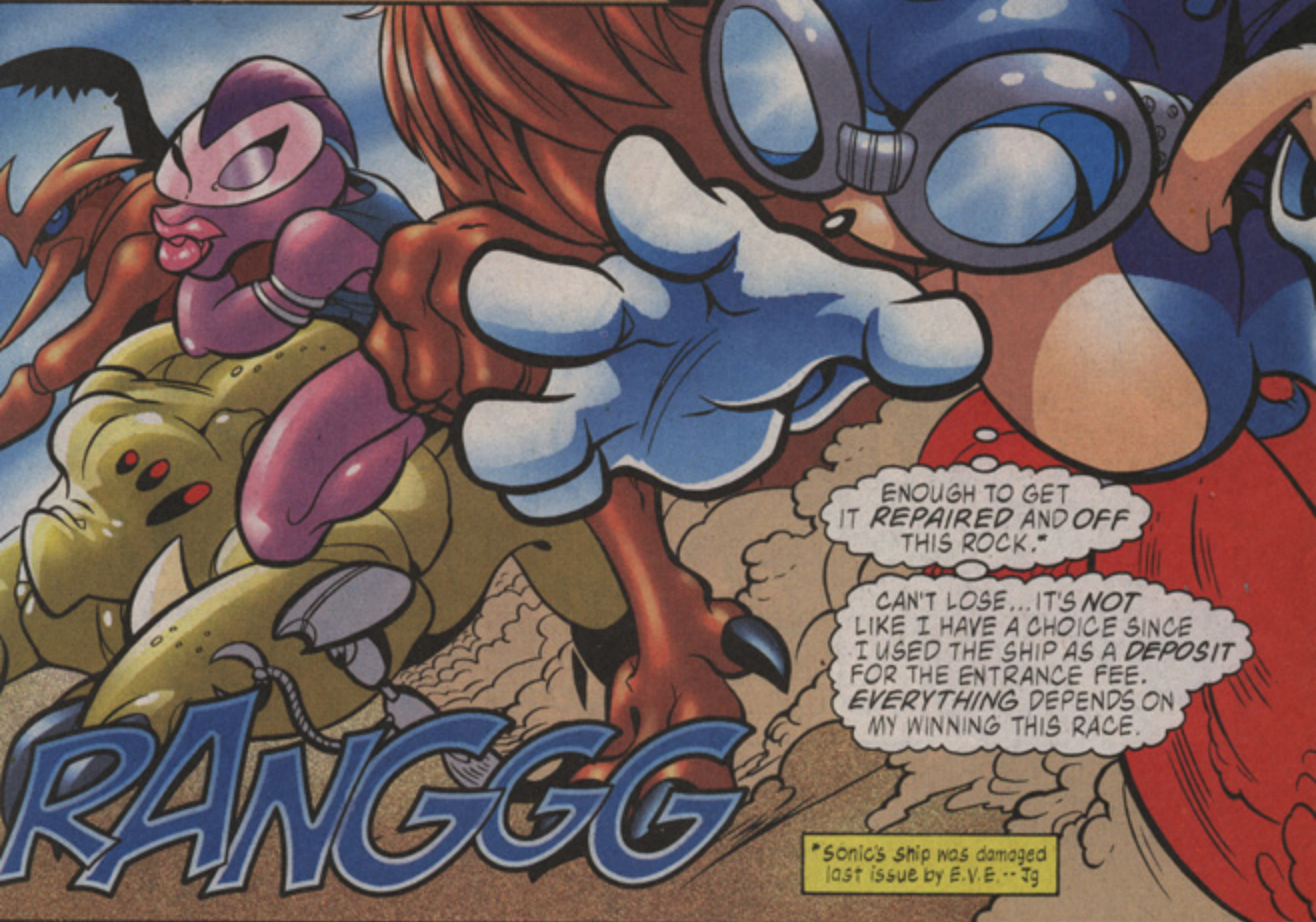
[EDITOR IN CHIEF]



ALL RIGHT, *SONIC*. YOU THINK YOU'RE THE *FASTEST KID* IN THE *GALAXY*, NOW IT'S TIME TO *PROVE IT*, IF I'M GOING TO WIN THAT *PRIZE* AND KEEP MY *SHIP*.

<COMING TO YOU LIVE FROM...>

<9%~20% (0.045%)>



ENOUGH TO GET IT *REPAIRED* AND OFF THIS *ROCK*.*

CAN'T LOSE... IT'S NOT LIKE I HAVE A CHOICE SINCE I USED THE *SHIP* AS A *DEPOSIT* FOR THE *ENTRANCE FEE*. *EVERYTHING* DEPENDS ON MY *WINNING* THIS *RACE*.

*Sonic's ship was damaged last issue by E.V.E. -- Jg



WHOA! THAT MUST BE THE *STARTING SIGNAL*. BETTER KEEP MY MIND ON THE *RACE*.

WHO KNOWS WHAT *SPEEDS* THIS GROUP OF *FREAKAZOIDS* I'M RACING AGAINST ARE CAPABLE OF.

HEADING DOWN THE *STRETCH*...

...SCARABB,

GREEBO,

NORDON,

KIR-TA,

BRRE-DIE,

AND SONIC THE HEDGEHOG.



הנהגת
הדג!

NADOOO
NE CRAGG!



הנהגת
הדג!

NOOOOOTCHH!

DUDE, THAT'S
NOT COOL, I
GUESS ANYTHING
GOES IN THIS
RACE... OKAY, I'M
IN THIRD...



...NOT
LETTING ME
PASS...

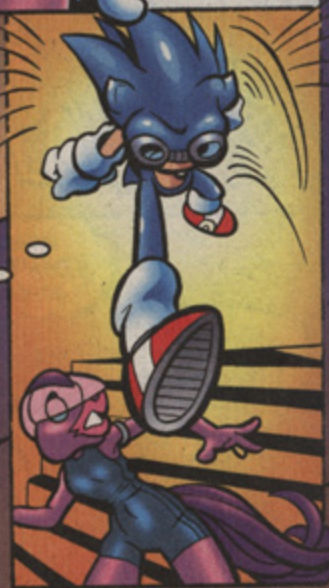


ALL RIGHT, FOXY
LIZARD-GIRL. I'LL SHOW
YOU A TRICK OR TWO!



I CALL THIS
LITTLE MANEUVER
"THE SOFTBALL
SPECIAL."

SCREEEE!





I'M ON THE LEADER!

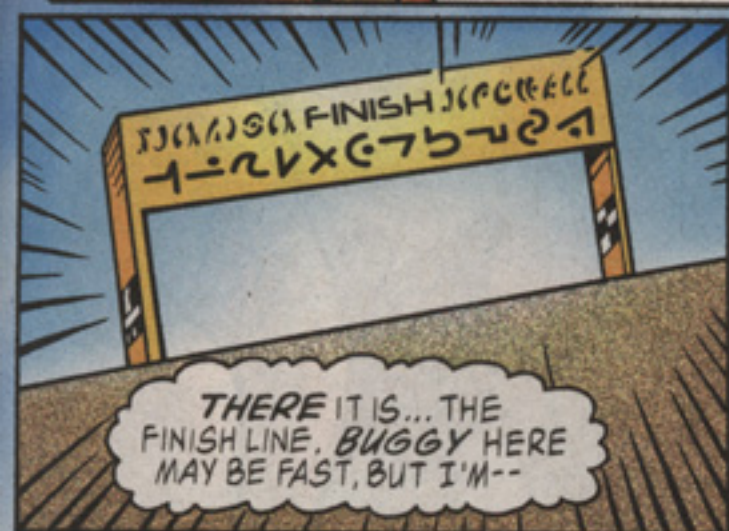
THOK

HEY, WATCH IT, BUGGY. I AIN'T FALLIN' FOR THE "RACER THROUGH THE WINDOW" TRICK.



SLASH

WHOA... GRANDMA, WHAT BIG CLAWS YOU HAVE!



THERE IT IS... THE FINISH LINE. BUGGY HERE MAY BE FAST, BUT I'M--



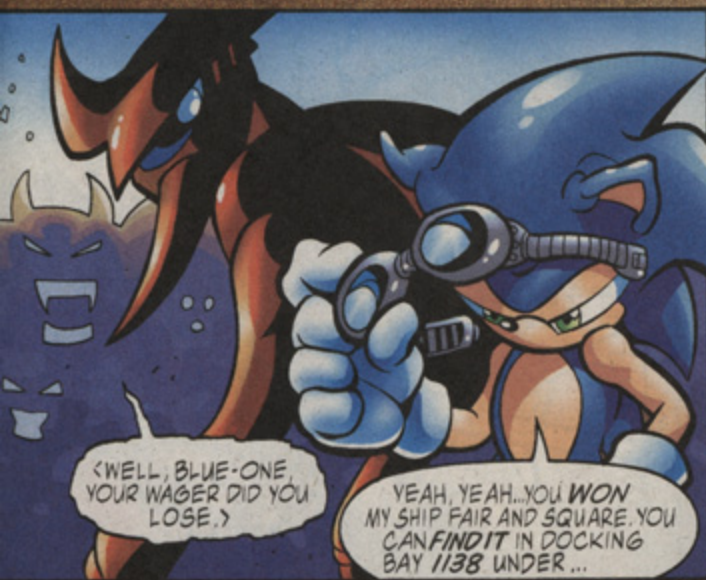
FASTER?!?



I-I-I DON'T BELIEVE IT! I LO-- I LOST-- I LOST THE RACE!

BE STRONG MY SHATTERED EGO.

LOOOOMMMMMMM



<WELL, BLUE-ONE,
YOUR WAGER DID YOU
LOSE.>

YEAH, YEAH...YOU WON
MY SHIP FAIR AND SQUARE. YOU
CAN FIND IT IN DOCKING
BAY 1138 UNDER ...

HOLD ON,
THERE'S BEEN
A NEW
DEVELOPMENT...

<SH?>
<U?>
<U?>



LET'S GET A SHOT OF THE
HOLO-FINISH... **THERE!** A
SMALL ROCKET BOOSTER!
<G-505672202020>

SCARABB HAS
CHEATED IN A NON-MECH
RACE. HIS PRIZE IS **FOR-
FEIT**. THE WINNER AND
NEW E.C.H.S. CHAMPION
IS...

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!
<G-505672202020>

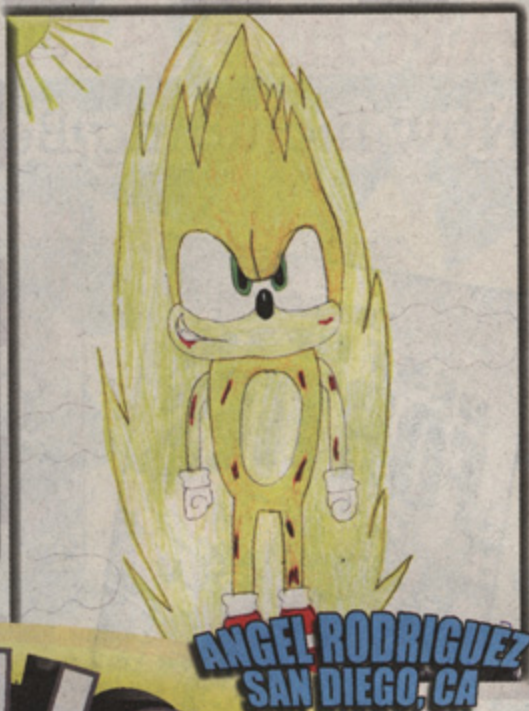
HOOORRAHHH!!

b-470!

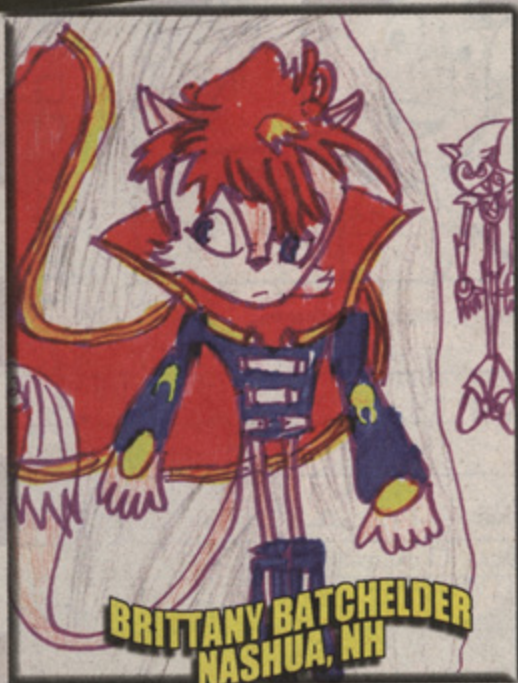
YEAH, BABY!
NOW I CAN REPAIR
MY SHIP! BESIDES,
THIS PROVES I'M
THE FASTEST
ANYTHING IN
THE UNIVERSE. I
WON'T LET IT GET
TO MY HEAD--

--MUCH!

END.



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ART WILL NOT
BE RETURNED!



TOSSED IN SPACE

PART 7

STARRING
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG

WELCOME TO THE WHEELWORLD

RIGHT THIS SECOND, IN A REALLY, REALLY FAR OFF GALAXY...

THERE IT IS, AT THE EXACT COORDINATES E.V.E. GAVE ME--ARGENTIUM, THE BEM HOMEWORLD.

IF ANYONE KNOWS THE WAY TO MOBIUS, THEY DO--THEY'VE BEEN THERE BEFORE.

BENNY LEE
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ART MAWHINNEY
pencils
MICHAEL HIGGINS
inks & letters
JASON JENSEN - color
J.F. GABRIE - editor
VICTOR GORELICK
managing editor
RICHARD GOLDWATER
editor in chief

STATE YOUR REASON FOR VISITING ARGENTIUM, SPACEFARER.

REASON?

YES, IT MEANS "WHY ARE YOU HERE?" WILL YOU BE ATTENDING THE TRIAL OF CENECA-9009? NO VISITORS ARE ALLOWED OTHERWISE.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT "CENECA-9009" IS, BUT I CAN'T BE SENT AWAY NOW--EVE SAID THE KEY TO GETTING HOME LIES SOMEWHERE ON THIS OVER-SIZED SPACE-DONUT!

Uhh... **YEAH**, THAT'S WHY I'M **HERE**, ALL RIGHT!

VERY GOOD, THEN. PREPARE FOR LANDING.

WHAT A WAY OUT WORLD! ITS OUTER RIM IS SOLID BEDROCK, WHILE ITS GRAVITY-CONTAINING "**INNER TUBE**" HAS OCEANS AND CONTINENTS--

-- CAPABLE OF SUPPORTING **LIFE!**

ON A CLEAR **DAY** YOU CAN LOOK UP AT THE **SKY** AND SEE THE OTHER SIDE OF THE **PLANET!**

MY **UNCLE CHUCK** COULD PROBABLY SPEND THE REST OF HIS LIFE **STUDYING** THIS PLACE.

AS IT IS, NOBODY'LL **EVER** SEE HIM AGAIN ONCE HE GETS HIS HANDS ON MY **SPACESHIP!**

WOW.

EITHER ALL OF THESE **ALIENS** HAVE CLOCKED THEIR FAIR **SHARE** OF FREQUENT FLIER MILES TO THE BEM **HOMEWORLD...**

SAY, WHERE'S **CENECA-9009** **LOCATED**, ANYWAY?

WHERE'RE YOU **FROM**, WISE GUY? THE OTHER **SIDE O' THE UNIVERSE?**

Uhh... **ACTUALLY...**

... OR PLANET **CENECA-9009** DID SOMETHING PRETTY **SERIOUS** TO WARRANT SUCH A HUGE **TURNOUT.**

MINUTES LATER...

THIS
MUST BE THE
COURTHOUSE!

CENECA-9009, YOU
STAND BEFORE THE
**TRIBUNAL MAGIS-
TRATE** OF PLANET
ARGENTIUM...

... ON THIS
THE 707th **ROLL**
OF THE 63rd
ROTATIONAL
SPIN...

... ACCUSED OF **CRIMINAL DIS-
OBEDIENCE** AGAINST THE
ARGENTIUM **HIGH COMMAND**

HOW
DO YOU
PLEAD?

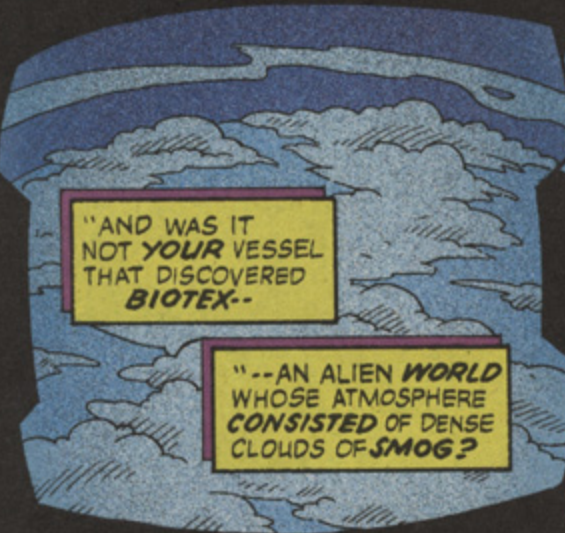
NOT
GUILTY,
CENECA-
10050.

WHAT? IS
EVERYONE NAMED
CENECA ON THIS
PLANET?

VERY **WELL**,
SINCE YOU **INSIST** ON
BELABORING THESE
PROCEEDINGS WITH
LIES...

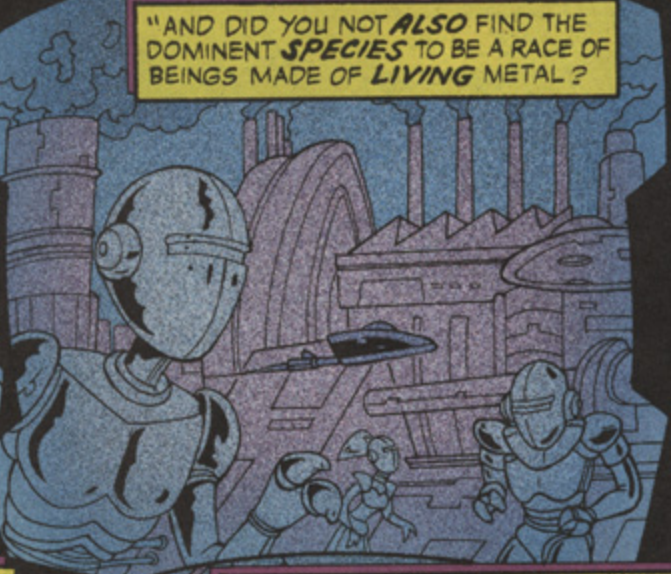
...LET
HISTORY
SHOW THE
TRUTH!

"WAS IT NOT **EIGHT
THOUSAND** ROTATIONAL
CYCLES AGO THAT THE
FIRST **BEM SCIENCE
CRUISERS** SET OFF TO
EXPLORE THE **STARS?**"

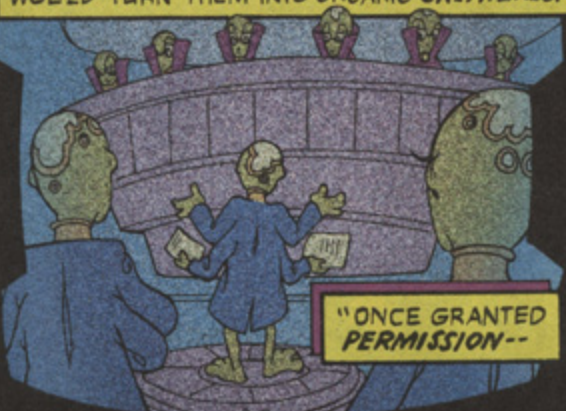


"AND WAS IT NOT **YOUR** VESSEL THAT DISCOVERED **BIOTEX--**

"--AN ALIEN **WORLD** WHOSE ATMOSPHERE CONSISTED OF DENSE CLOUDS OF **SMOG?**

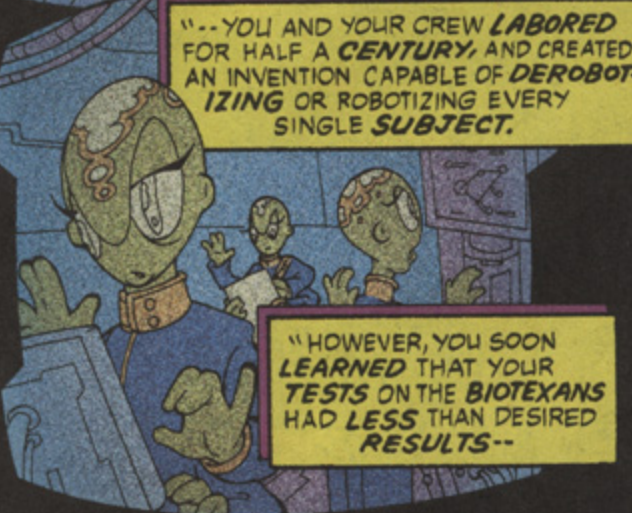


"AND DID YOU NOT **ALSO** FIND THE DOMINANT **SPECIES** TO BE A RACE OF BEINGS MADE OF **LIVING METAL?**



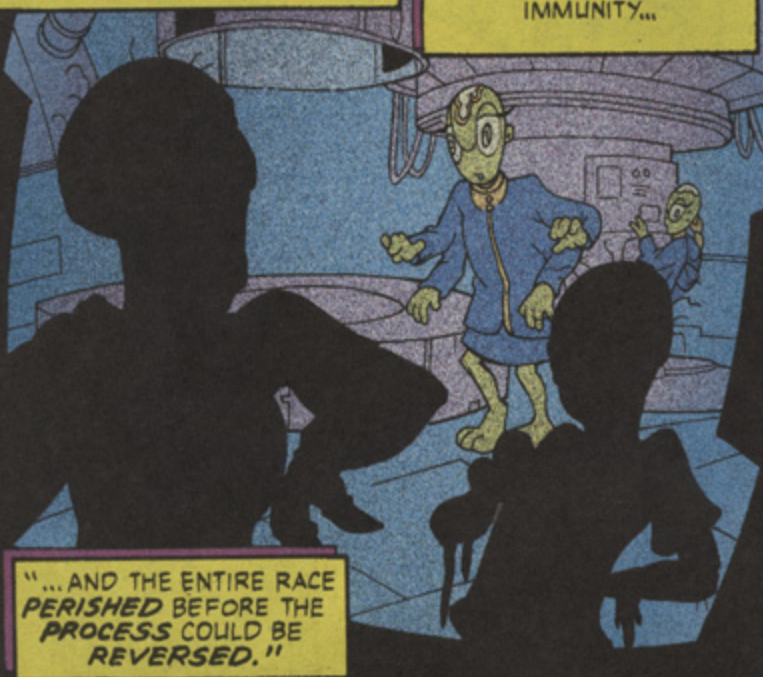
"SO **MOVED** BY THEIR ALLEGED **PLIGHT**, YOU WENT BEFORE THE **HIGH COMMAND** AND ASKED TO FASHION A **DEVICE** THAT WOULD TURN THEM INTO ORGANIC **CREATURES**.

"ONCE GRANTED **PERMISSION--**



"--YOU AND YOUR CREW **LABORED** FOR HALF A **CENTURY**, AND CREATED AN INVENTION CAPABLE OF **DEROBOTIZING** OR **ROBOTIZING** EVERY SINGLE **SUBJECT**.

"HOWEVER, YOU SOON **LEARNED** THAT YOUR **TESTS** ON THE **BIOTEXANS** HAD **LESS** THAN DESIRED **RESULTS--**



"THEY HAD **EVOLVED** INTO LIVING **METAL** AS A NATURAL **DEFENSE**...

"...A **DEFENSE** AGAINST THEIR OWN PLANETS DEADLY **MICROBES**, BUT YOU TOOK AWAY THAT **IMMUNITY**...



DEROBOTIZATION WAS OUTLAWED AFTER THAT DAY, WAS IT NOT?

"...AND THE ENTIRE RACE **PERISHED** BEFORE THE **PROCESS** COULD BE **REVERSED**."

YES, IT WAS...

"AND FOR THE NEXT **SEVERAL THOUSAND** CYCLES YOUR SHIP CONDUCTED **GEOLOGICAL** SURVEYS AROUND THE **UNIVERSE...**

"AND ON THAT DISTANT **ORB** OUR SPY-CAMS **DISCOVERED...**

"... BEFORE **FINDING** ITSELF IN A REMOTE **GALAXY**, ORBITING A WORLD CALLED **MOBIUS**.

"... THAT A WOULD-BE-WORLD **CONQUEROR** HAD DEVISED HIS OWN **VERSION** OF THE **ROBOTIZER!**

HIDDEN
SPY-CAM

IT'S THE ORIGINAL **DOCTOR ROBOTNIK**-- MY LATE **NEMESIS!**

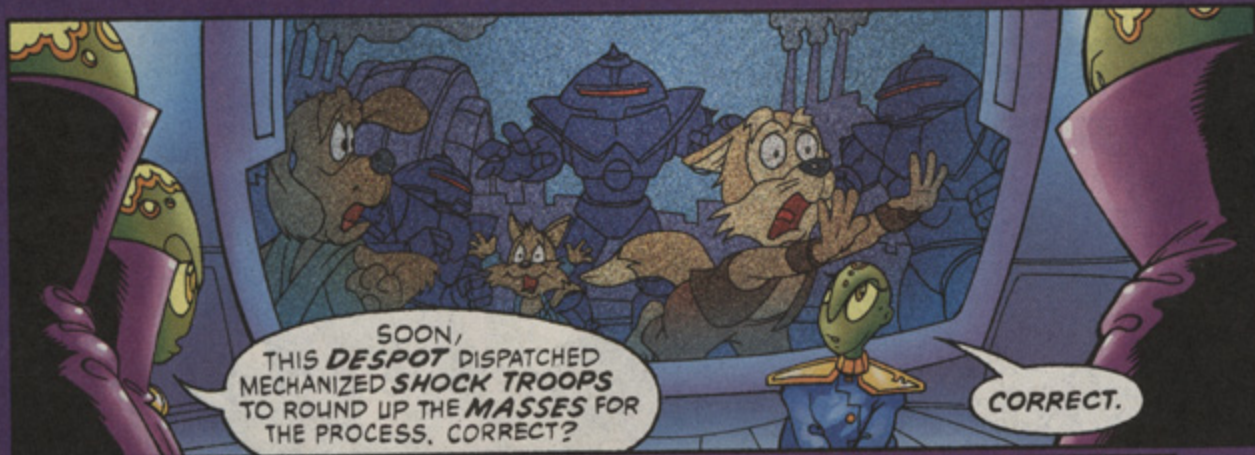
AND THAT'S **AMADEUS PROWER**-- MY BEST BUDDY'S **DAD**-- TRAPPED **INSIDE** THE **ROBOTIZER!**

"HOWEVER, THE CRUDE **DEVICE** WAS ONLY **CAPABLE** OF TRANSFORMING **ORGANIC** MATERIAL INTO **INORGANIC...**

"AND ONCE **ROBOTIZED**, A SUBJECT **REMAINED** IN THAT STATE **FOREVER**.

WE ALWAYS **WONDERED** WHAT BECAME OF HIM-- NOW I **KNOW**.

I'M SO SORRY, **TAILS!**



SOON,
THIS **DESPOT** DISPATCHED
MECHANIZED **SHOCK TROOPS**
TO ROUND UP THE **MASSSES** FOR
THE PROCESS. CORRECT?

CORRECT.

"ONE OF THE CAPTURED, **ROSEMARY PROWER**, WAS REUNITED WITH HER MISSING **SPOUSE** ONLY TO FIND--

AMADEUS--
WHAT'S BECOME
OF YOU?

WHAT'S GOING
TO BECOME OF ALL
YOU FLEA-BITTEN
FUR-BAGS!

"BUT BEFORE ANYTHING **ELSE** COULD
HAPPEN, YOU, **CENECA-9009**, **TRANSPOR-**
PORTED THE HUSBAND AND WIFE
FROM THEIR **LOCATION...**

WHA--?!

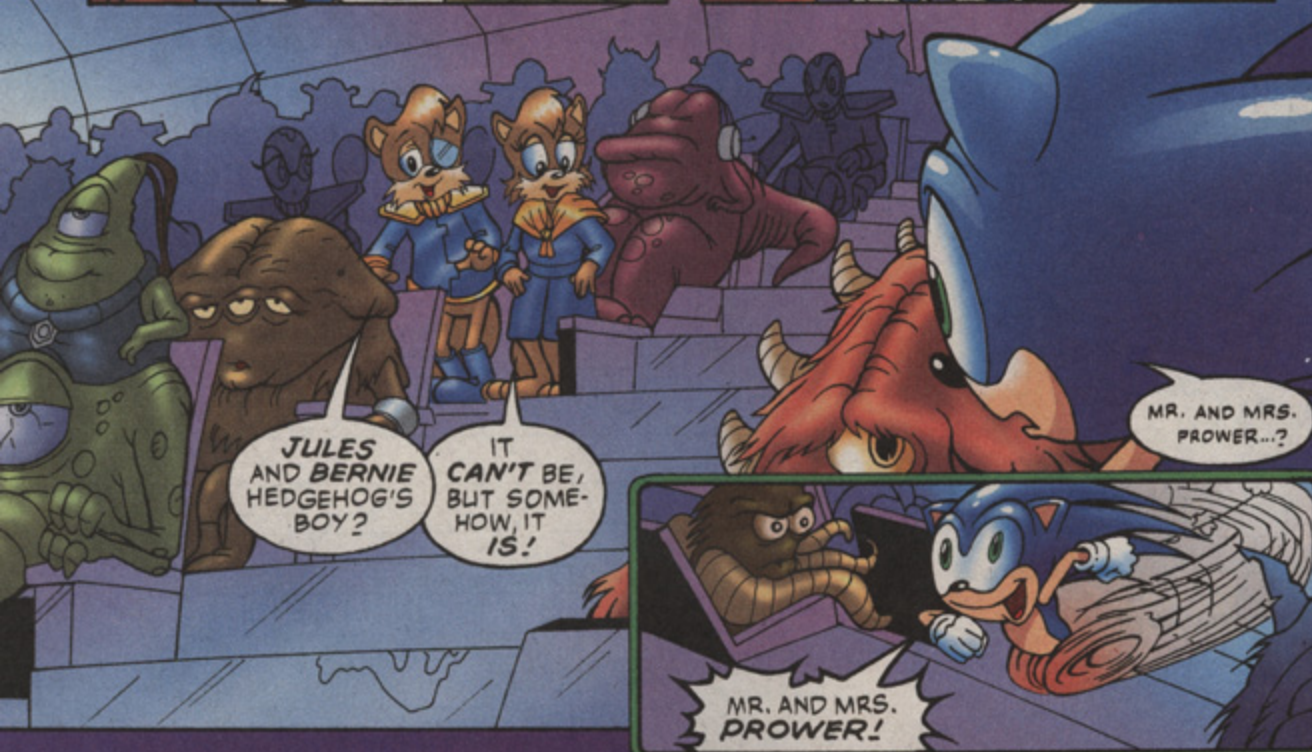
"... **ONTO** YOUR SCIENCE
CRUISER WHERE YOU TOOK
IT UPON **YOURSELF**
TO REVERSE THE
EFFECTS ON
AMADEUS PROWER.

"YOU THEN **RETURNED**
TO ARGENTUM WITH
BOTH MOBIANS AND
STOOD BEFORE THE
HIGH COMMAND...

"... WHERE YOU ASKED
THAT YOUR **SISTER**
BEM INTERVENE AND
PUT A **STOP** TO WHAT
WAS HAPPENING
ON **OFF-WORLD**
MOBIUS.

"YOUR
REQUEST
WAS
DENIED...

"... AND YOU WERE
IMPRISONED
FOR USING YOUR
OUTLAWED
INVENTION.





IS IT REALLY YOU?

YOU'D BETTER BELIEVE IT, SIR!

YOU WERE ONLY FOUR YEARS OLD THE LAST TIME WE SAW YOU-- MY, BUT YOU'VE GROWN!

WHY DIDN'T YOU COME BACK HOME TO MOBIUS?



AFTER CENECA-9009'S INCARCERATION ALL BEM VESSEL'S WERE FORBIDDEN FROM TRAVELING THERE.



AMADEUS AND ROSEMARY HAVE LIVED IN SAFETY ON ARGENTIUM FOR THE PAST TWELVE YEARS.

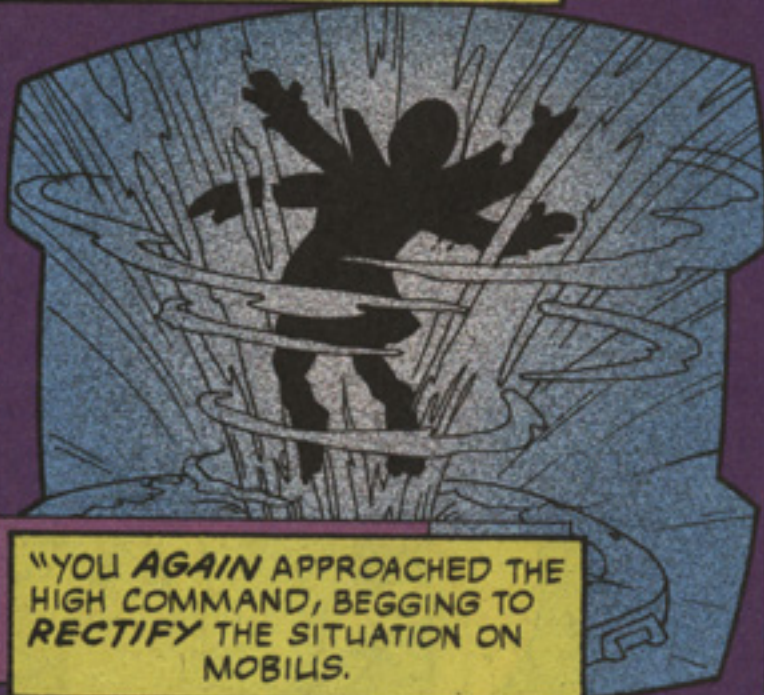
MORE LIKE YOU'VE BEEN HOLDING THEM PRISONER HERE AGAINST THEIR WILL!



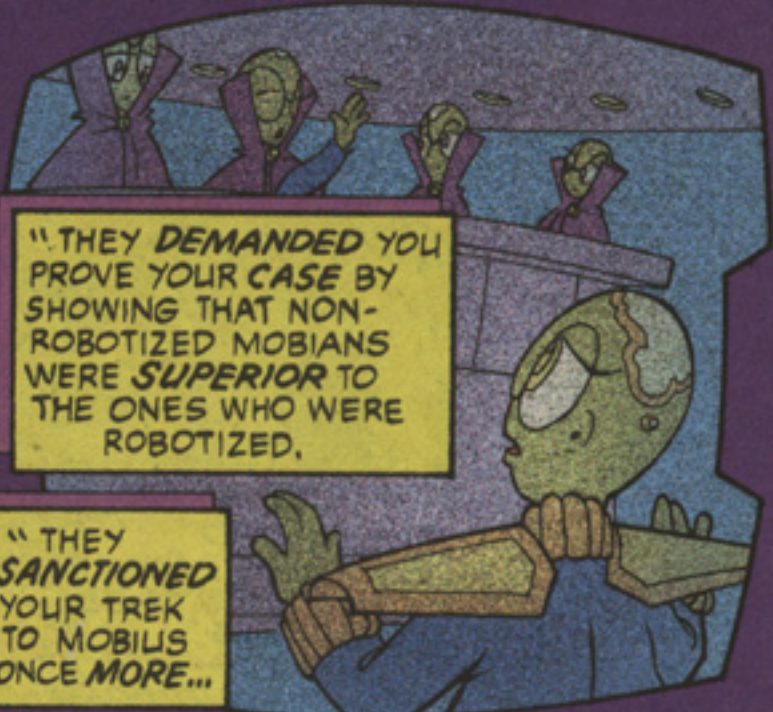
WE WOULD ASK THAT YOU RESPECT THIS COURT, SONIC THE HEDGEHOG...

...OR BE FORCED TO LEAVE. THIS TRIAL IS NOT YET ADJOURNED. CENECA-9009...

"...SIX CYCLES AGO, YOU WERE RELEASED FROM JAIL HAVING SERVED YOUR SENTENCE.



"YOU AGAIN APPROACHED THE HIGH COMMAND, BEGGING TO RECTIFY THE SITUATION ON MOBIUS.



"THEY DEMANDED YOU PROVE YOUR CASE BY SHOWING THAT NON-ROBOTIZED MOBIANS WERE SUPERIOR TO THE ONES WHO WERE ROBOTIZED.

"THEY SANCTIONED YOUR TREK TO MOBIUS ONCE MORE...

"...WHERE YOU **BEGAN** CONDUCTING YOUR **EXPERIMENT**. YOU SELECTED **FOUR** **MOBIAN** TEST SUBJECTS--

"--**TWO** OF THEM **ORGANIC** AND THE **OTHER TWO** **INORGANIC**."

"SO IT **WAS** THAT THE **ROBOTIZED** SUBJECTS **DEFEATED** THE **NON-ROBOTIZED** ONES IN **COMBAT**."

FAIR ENOUGH, BUT STILL NO FAIR. SURE I KICKED RO"BU"TT"NIK'S BUTT AS **MECHA-SONIC**, BUT I COULD'VE DONE IT AS MY WARM AND CUDDLY SELF, TOO.

AGREED-- IT WAS THE HIGH COMMAND WHO ORDERED THE ROBOTIC ROLE REVERSAL, NOT I.

IRRELEVANT.

THE TEST RESULTS CLEARLY **ILLUSTRATED** THE **ADVANCED NATURE** OF **ROBOTIC** **MOBIANS**, AND ONCE THE **HIGH COMMAND** **REVIEWED** YOUR FINDINGS...

...YOU WERE GIVEN A **DIRECT ORDER** TO **ROBOTIZE** ALL **MOBIANS** AT ONCE. **INSTEAD**...

...YOU **DISOBEYED** AND DID THE **EXACT** **OPPOSITE**.

BUT, SHE DID THE RIGHT THING! **MOBIANS** **AREN'T** SUPPOSED TO BE **ROBOTIZED**!

THUS, IT IS THE **JUDGMENT** OF THIS **TRIBUNAL**...

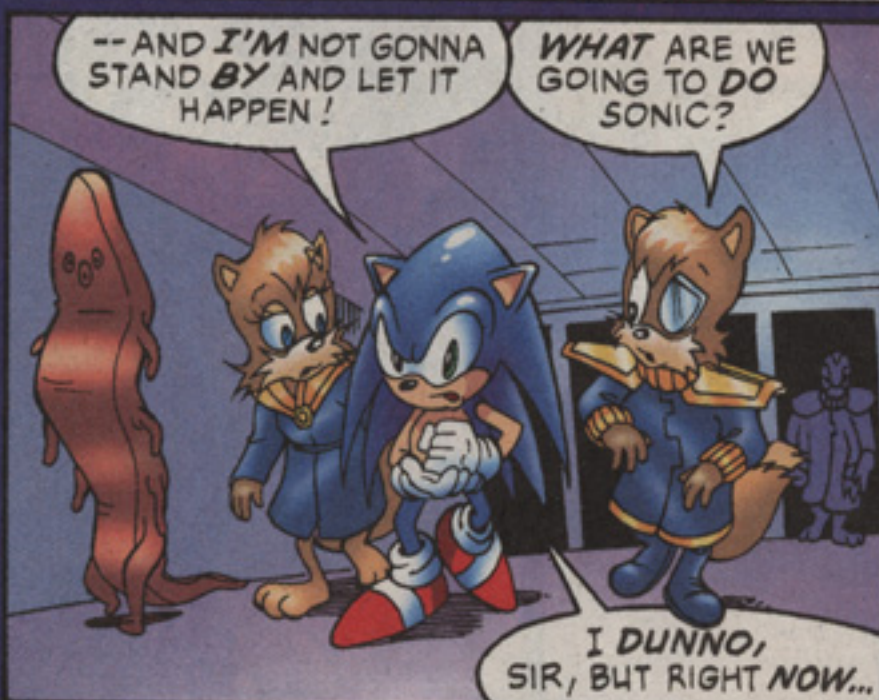


MINUTES LATER...



-- AND I'M NOT GONNA
STAND *BY* AND LET IT
HAPPEN!

WHAT ARE WE
GOING TO DO
SONIC?



HOURS LATER...

SO OUR MILES
IS A BRAVE
HERO?

THE **BRAVEST!** PLUS HE'S THE
BEST FIGHTER PILOT AND A
MECHANICAL GENIUS TO
BOOT!

I ALWAYS
KNEW HE'D
MAKE US
PROUD.

DON'T **WORRY,**
MA'AM, YOU'LL
BE **ABLE** TO
SEE HIM
AGAIN...

... **AFTER**
I **BUST** CENECA-9009 OUT AND
WE **JUICE** IN MY--

-- **SPACESHIP?**

HEY!!

WHAT'S
THE **IDEA** OF TAKING
APART MY **RIDE?**!

LISTEN, MAC! I GOT MY
ORDERS, YOU'S FROM
MOBIUS, **RIGHT?**

YEAH,
WHAT
ABOUT
IT?

NO SHIPS
ALLOWED BETWEEN HERE
'N MOBIUS--NOT SINCE THE
XORDA DECLARED **WAR**
ON THAT **MUD-SPECK!**
YOU DON'T **LIKE** IT, TAKE IT
UP WITH HIGH COMMAND.

WE'RE
STRANDED.

NOT
NECESSARILY.



CENECA-10050...?!

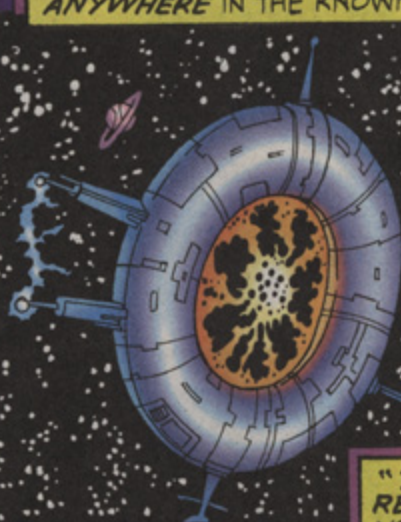
YOU'RE THE HEAD MAGISTRATE! WHAT DO YOU WANT?

HEAR ME OUT, HEDGEHOG. NOT *ALL* OF US CONSIDER CENECA-9009 TO DESERVE THIS *PUNISHMENT*. AS A MATTER OF *FACT*, I BELIEVE THAT HER RECENT *ACTIONS* ON MOBIUS...

...HELPED *BALANCE* THE TRAGEDY ON BIOTEX SO LONG AGO.



"IN ORBIT, NEAR ARGENTILUM, IS AN ARTIFICIAL *WORMHOLE* OF BEM DESIGN THAT CAN TAKE YOU-- *ALL* OF YOU, INCLUDING CENECA 9009-- ANYWHERE IN THE KNOWN UNIVERSE."



"I CAN USE MY LIMITED RESOURCES TO SECURE YOU A *VESSEL* FOR THE *JOURNEY*."

HOW DO WE KNOW WE CAN *TRUST* YOU?



YOU HAVE NO *OTHER* ALTERNATIVE.



YOU CAN
SAY *THAT*
AGAIN.

**INSIDE CENECA-9009'S
PRISON CELL...**

WHAT
IN--?!



COME WITH ME
IF YOU *DON'T*
WANT TO BE
KILLED.



**SECONDS
LATER...**

SONIC--
YOU MADE
IT!

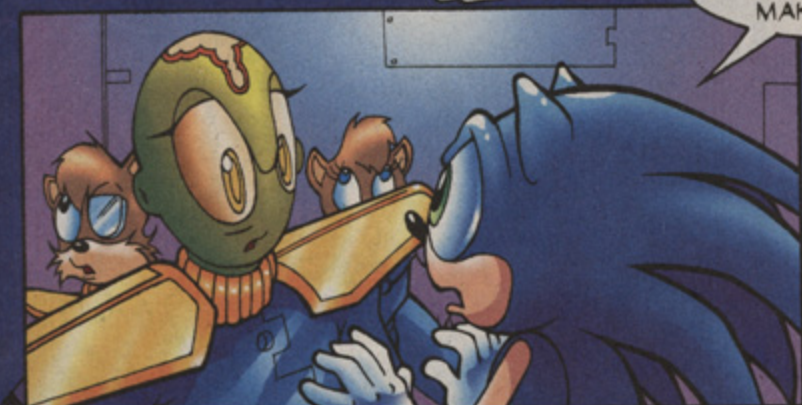
YEP.

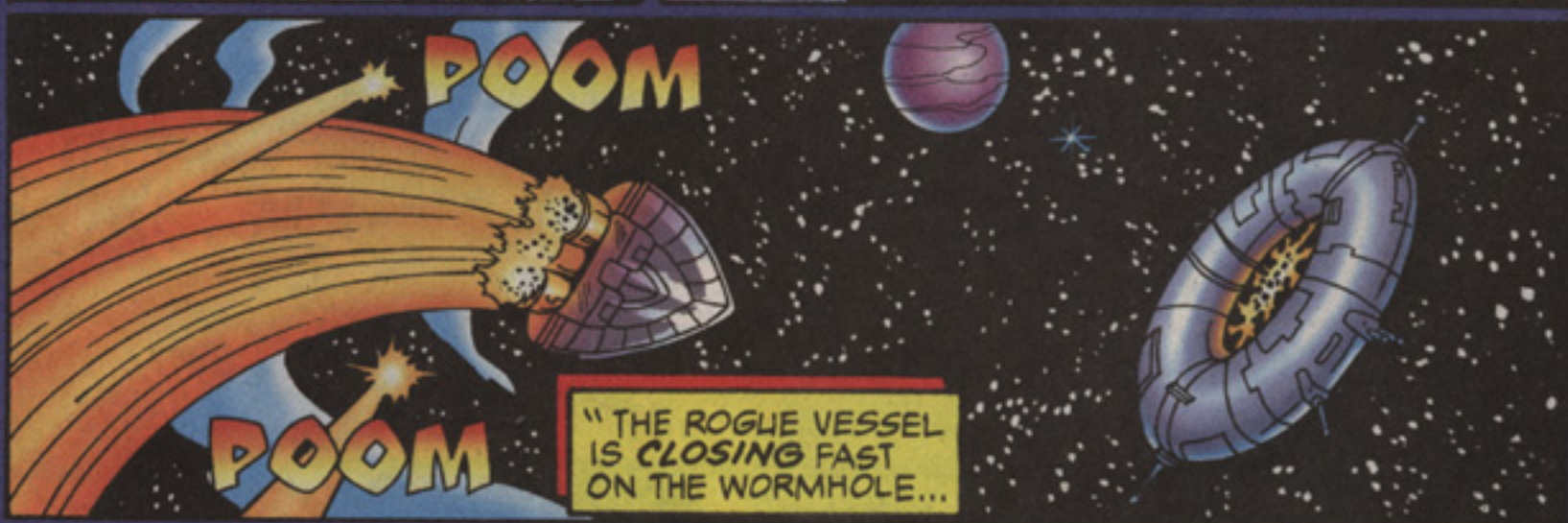
ARE WE
READY TO
ROLL?



WHERE'S
THE SHIP?







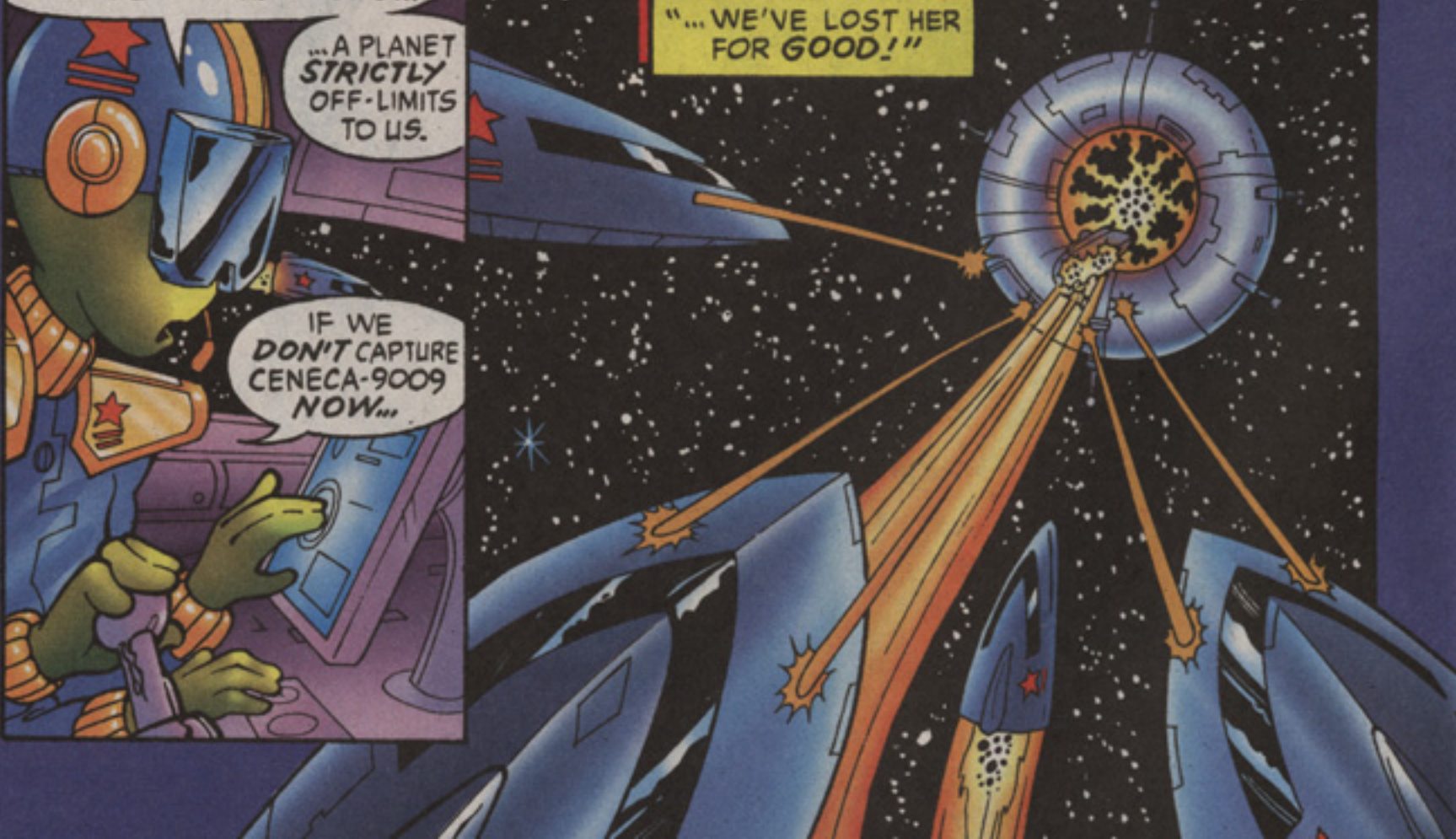
"THE ROGUE VESSEL
IS **CLOSING** FAST
ON THE WORMHOLE..."

...AND ACCORDING TO MY
SENSORS, IT'S PLOTTED A
COURSE TOWARD MOBIUS...

...A PLANET
STRICTLY
OFF-LIMITS
TO US.

IF WE
DON'T CAPTURE
CENCA-9009
NOW...

"...WE'VE LOST HER
FOR **GOOD!**"





HE MADE IT **THROUGH**-- AND THEY DON'T DARE FOLLOW, FOR FEAR OF THE XORDA.

YOUR PLAN WAS A BRILLIANT **SUCCESS**, CENECA-9009.



BY **FOOLING** THE AUTHORITIES INTO **BELIEVING** YOU WERE ABOARD THE FLEEING **CRUISER**-- WHEN IT WAS, IN FACT, SONIC-- THEY WON'T BOTHER TO **SEARCH** FOR YOU **HERE** ON ARGENTMIUM.

TRUE...

...BUT I MUST **FOREVER** SPEND MY EXISTENCE IN **HIDING** OR HEAR THE EXECUTIONER'S **SONG**.

OH, AMADEUS! SONIC **OFFERED** HIS PLACE ON THAT VESSEL TO **EITHER** ONE OF US, BUT I COULD **NEVER** GO BACK TO MOBILIUS **WITHOUT** YOU!

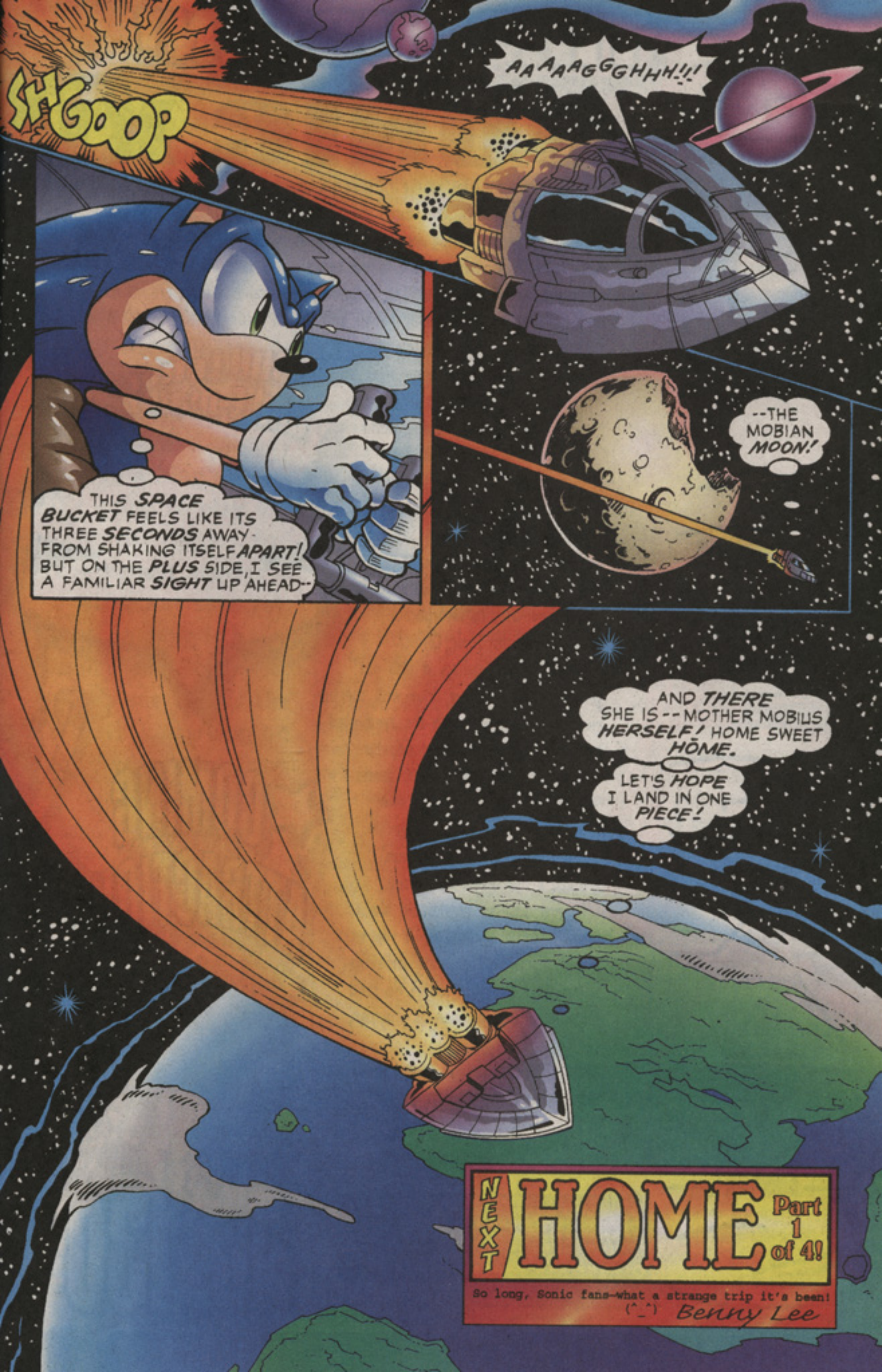
NOR I YOU, MY LOVE.

DO YOU **THINK** WE'LL EVER SEE OUR SON AGAIN?

I HAVE **FAITH**, DEAREST...



...AND AS LONG AS SONIC GIVES HIM THE **PACKAGE** WE SENT, MILES WILL **ALWAYS** KNOW HOW MUCH WE **LOVE** HIM!



SH GOOP

AAAAGGHHH!!!

THIS SPACE
BUCKET FEELS LIKE ITS
THREE SECONDS AWAY
FROM SHAKING ITSELF APART!
BUT ON THE PLUS SIDE, I SEE
A FAMILIAR SIGHT UP AHEAD--

--THE
MOBIAN
MOON!

AND THERE
SHE IS -- MOTHER MOBIUS
HERSELF! HOME SWEET
HÖME.

LET'S HOPE
I LAND IN ONE
PIECE!

NEXT **HOME** Part 1 of 4!

So long, Sonic fans--what a strange trip it's been!
(^_^) Benny Lee

THIS JUST IN!

SONIC X!

I've seen four episodes of the cartoon so far on the FoxBox... and I LIKE IT!!! The animation is nice, the stories are cool and best of all... there's an ongoing continuity as the series progresses. It is executive produced by Yuji Naka himself so what you see in the series is his take on what Sonic's adventures should be about. The cartoon's stories and settings are, of course, very different from the comic book's stories and settings. What to do? A lot of

the fans speculated on-line that when Sonic returns home next issue, he would crash land on a Mobius remade into the world introduced in Sonic X. Rest assured, that is not the case (as you can see by the cover for #130 with Princess Sally, who doesn't exist in Sonic X). SEGA is leaving it up to us to decide how best to incorporate Sonic X into the Sonic Comic, whether we amalgamate it into our continuity (as we have done with the previous two TV series, both the syndicated humor series and the ever popular SatAM series, and the various games over the years), give it its own feature, or ignore it all together. I've come up with a decision, which I will reveal next issue.

However, just for giggles, I'd like to know what you would do if you were in my shoes. We'll dedicate an entire letters page to those letters, so send them in to Ken as soon as you can.

Until then, may the need for speed be with you...

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Note: Due to the overwhelming amount of e-mail and snail mail, it is impossible for us to reply personally to each and every message. However, your opinions are important to us and each message will be read. Also, due to space limitations, some correspondence may be edited. **THANKS FOR UNDERSTANDING!**

**Send Letters
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SONIC-GRAMS # 129

c/o Archie Comic Publications, Inc.

P.O. Box #419

Mamaroneck, NY 10543-0419

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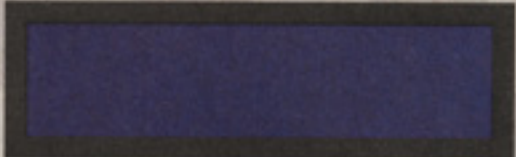
**SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG**



No. 130

**Ken Penders here...
It's really weird when
putting these letters
pages together 'cause
by the time you guys
read this it's two
months down the
road from when we
get ready to send this
to the printers. At
this time, SONIC X
has been on for a few
weeks, and already
you're asking us how
it's going to play out
in the comics. And
the honest answer is
we're not sure yet,
but nothing is being
ruled out. That said,
let's see what's the
latest, starting off
with a fan from
Downunda...**

Dear Sonic and the Sonic crew,
First I would like to thank
and congratulate you all on the
ongoing success of the Sonic comics.
The Manga/anime concept art
is absolutely fantastic. I would
especially like to congratulate "Spaz"
for his ever-improving work on the
comic covers over the past years.
When I first started collecting I
thought that the cover art was
marvelous and now, after many years
and issues later, it has been brought
to unimaginable artistic heights. Well
done!! Also, the story lines are very
interesting, always bringing suspense
and dazzling art at every flip of a
page. I think these kinds of story
lines are better because they attract
more age groups and people can
relate to some of the stories.



The second thing I would like to
bring up is the use of Australian
animals and the "Downunda"
freedom fighters. I think that it's
awesome that you use Aussie
animals. No other (or perhaps barely
any) comic series contains Australian
animals. I (and other Aussie Sonic
fans) would just like to say, "Great
job, mate." Of course, we would
like to see them in another
mini-series or something. This might
seem like a bit of a weird question,
but are there any unusual animal
combinations/crossbreeds in Sonic
now or planned i.e. snake crossed
with bird or Hedgehog crossed with
fox? If not, I think that would be an
interesting idea for the future.
I would just like to express my
feelings about the so-called
"unpopularity" of Sonic in Australia.
I'm sure most of you would have no
idea how hard it is to get anything
Sonic in Australia. The comic series
is 5 issues behind and most
newsagents don't even stock it.
Down here, if you missed an issue,
you'll never ever get it (unless a
miracle happens). This is very
disappointing for us Sonic fans who
can't get back issues. No Sonic
merchandise is sold here, SatAM has-
n't aired here yet and I doubt it
will. I know you probably aren't the
right people to ask this question,
but I thought I might as well: Will
Sonic X air in Australia? People think
Sonic is so unpopular down here,
but he really isn't. I know plenty of
people who love Sonic and wish we
could see more of him in Australia.
Anyway, keep up the mondo coolio
work and on behalf of the Sonic
fans of Australia I would like to
congratulate the whole Sonic
crew and all the freedom fighters
for their outstanding performance
and we hope you keep bringing us
the same awesome work for many
years to come.

Your loyal freedom fighting
Sonic fan,

**Haylo the Fox-Bat :
Leader of the Australian
freedom fighters.
(different area than
the Downunda's)**

Wish we could help you out, Haylo,
but it's all we can do just to get
our books to the readers on this
side of the world. At this time, your
best bet is going online and looking
for a source that carries our books
that also ships to your neck of the
woods. As for SONIC X, that all
depends if a station or network
makes it known to the people who
produce the show that they'd like to
broadcast it. Maybe you can organize
a letter campaign to let them know
there's an audience for it. Check
back with us later and let us know
how it goes.

Hey, Sonic guys!

First off, I don't think I need
to repeat others in saying that
#125 was absolutely brilliant. It
truly was one of the best things
that I've ever read. Now, that aside,
I'd like to throw in my opinion on
many of the discussions currently
going on. I think the current 2-story
format is just perfect. The stories are
just long enough to be good, but
not so long they get boring. Trying
to cram 3 stories into one issue
made most of them seem rushed or
cut down. As for people saying you
should do stories focused more on
non-main characters (i.e. not in
Knothole or a member of Sonic's
freedom fighter group), I think that's
ridiculous. Bear in mind there are
only 12 or 13 issues a year.
With those few issues and
just 32 pages a month to cram
everything into, it seems a waste
of space and time to print stories
revolving entirely around nonessential
characters. If people are that
desperate to see minor characters
such as Geoffrey St. John, etc.
(I don't like the minor characters

much anyway), they should just be given a cameo or something.

Oh, and as for people wanting even more characters, I say STOP IT NOW!!! No more new characters! There are already FAR too many as it is, and more characters would just cause greater conflict over my last point. Oh, but there is ONE new character I want to see - CREAM! PLEASE put her in soon, and don't just give her a cameo every now and then like Shadow and Rouge, as I'd love to see her as a Knothole resident. After all, this is an OFFICIAL Sonic comic, so why should characters like Sally and Rotor get starring roles whilst official characters like Shadow and Rouge are constantly pushed into the background? Anyway, I've taken up enough of your precious, precious time, so what's left to say besides keep up the great work?

Mark Teo, England, UK

Mark, right about now, a good portion of Sonic fandom may take what you said as "fighting words." Everyone has varying opinions: Play down their favorite character? No new characters? Then you ask Cream be added and featured? While downplaying Sally and Rotor? Downplaying SALLY? Did I get you straight? I can already imagine the letters and e-mail that will be generated immediately after they read this.

Dear Sonic Crew,

I just finished reading both issues 126 and 127, and I am absolutely stunned. I mean, WOW! These issues were awesome, beyond awesome, absolutely, indescribably fun and exciting to read. I figured I just had to let you guys know about how I felt. First, the things I didn't like. There were none. I loved 'em. The first thing I noticed was the return of the traditional covers. To me, this was cool. Not because I didn't particularly like the magazine style, but because it was rather

limited in what the artists could do with it, and became boring and repetitious after a few issues. Moving on, I found the true blue hero on a distant planet, and soon he was battling space aliens. While it may not seem as monumental to other readers as it does to myself, I found this an awesome move on the part of the writers. Sonic was fighting something other than Robotnik and his robots. Of course, the twisted Doc is a bad guy who needs to be beaten, and a fun arch-nemesis for Sonic, but it can lose its luster after a while. I was pleased to see that for the next few issues, Sonic would have other things to battle besides the usual customers. Much like the Ixis Naugus saga, I find this a refreshing and exciting break. Not to mention I had always wanted to see Sonic in a sci-fi environment, and the different aliens battling for supremacy certainly fit the bill.

Next, I noticed something about the stories themselves. They seemed longer, at less of a rushed pace than they were before. And unless I am mistaken, they are longer. Before the issue 125 story, the main stories in a book were about 11 pages long. Both issues 126 and 127 had a 16 page main story. I think this is an AWESOME change.

I cannot express how much of a difference I felt in these story lines. It gave you guys time to expand upon the events and characters in a given story. Like in issue 127, I felt you guys did a great job first with the alien spacecraft. The whole time Sonic was up there, I never got the feeling that anything was being rushed, and I really got a lot of info about these aliens. On top of that, you still were able to change the direction of the story and have Sonic crash on a planet, and learn about its accelerated evolution. Absolutely terrific. I think this is a perfect length for the main story.

Then, there were the extra strips in the book. Both were very well done. A lot can be done with five pages, and you guys actually did a very nice piece with the "Off Panel" story in issue 126. The one in 127 was good as well. My only complaint was that I would rather have seen more of Knuckles, or any of Sonic's friends back on Mobius, instead. However, I'm sure you guys have your reasons. Concerning the artwork, I like the style used in issue 126 over 127. I'm not too well learned on the different techniques that go into the different aspects of making a comic panel, so I use the term style loosely. I just liked the way the characters looked, as well as the coloring.

Also, about your book being cool compared to other comics. Well, I myself am a 15 year old who dabbles in the art of comic collecting, so I have read a few other series myself, some targeted to more higher age brackets than others. But I still think this comic stands right up there with the best of them.

Anyway, if you are actually reading this it means you took the time to listen to what I had to say, so thanks. I just want to let you all know that I support your book 100%, and will always be a true blue fan.

Tom Harritt

Actually, Tom, we make it a point to read ALL our mail, even though it's not possible to print more than a small portion of it. It's how we find out what you guys like, and more important, what you don't like, so we can continue to make this book a "must read" every month. Judging by that, we must be doing something right as Sonic is the envy throughout the comics industry.



And on that note, it's a wrap, people. See you in four weeks.



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